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REMARKS

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 alleging that the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matters. In particular, the Examiner alleged that the claims are drawn to a mathematical algorithm per se.

Claim 1 has been amended to include receiving a sound signal, an image signal or a data signal and converting the sound signal, the image signal or the data signal into a binary code bit string $\{y\}$. The binary code bit string is compressed so that the length of the resulting compressed code $Y(-\tau)$ is less than the length of the bit string $\{y\}$. Although the claimed invention uses a mathematical algorithm to compress the binary code bit string, Claim 1 recites a method that performs a real-world function and results in a practical application of the algorithm, namely the compression of a bit string.

The claimed invention results in a useful, concrete and tangible result. The claimed invention is useful since it results in the compression of a bit string. As discussed in more detail in the specification, compression addresses the problem of having limited memory space since compression allows more information to be stored in a given space. *See e.g.* page 1, lines 20-22. Claim 1 expressly recites that a sound signal, an image signal or a data signal are converted to a binary code bit string $\{y\}$ and compressed so that the length of the compressed code $Y(-\tau)$ is less than the length of the bit string $\{y\}$. The claimed invention is concrete since the method is repeatable and predictable and it produces a tangible result since it recites an application of a mathematical algorithm, not just the mathematical algorithm itself.

Claims directed to methods for compressing information are statutory as demonstrated by the number of patents that have issued that are directed to the compression of information. *See e.g.* U.S. Pat. No. 7,116,834 and 7,113,112.

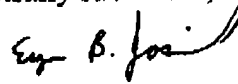
The amendment to Claim 1 is supported by the specification which describes the current problems with compressing information, such as numerical data, sound and images, such as that found in JPEG and MPEG files. *See e.g.* specification, page 1, line 7- page 3, line 6.

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CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action identified above. This application should now be in condition for allowance, and the Applicants solicit a notice to that effect. If there are any issues that can be addressed via telephone, the Examiner is asked to contact the undersigned at 404.685.6799.

Respectfully submitted,



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